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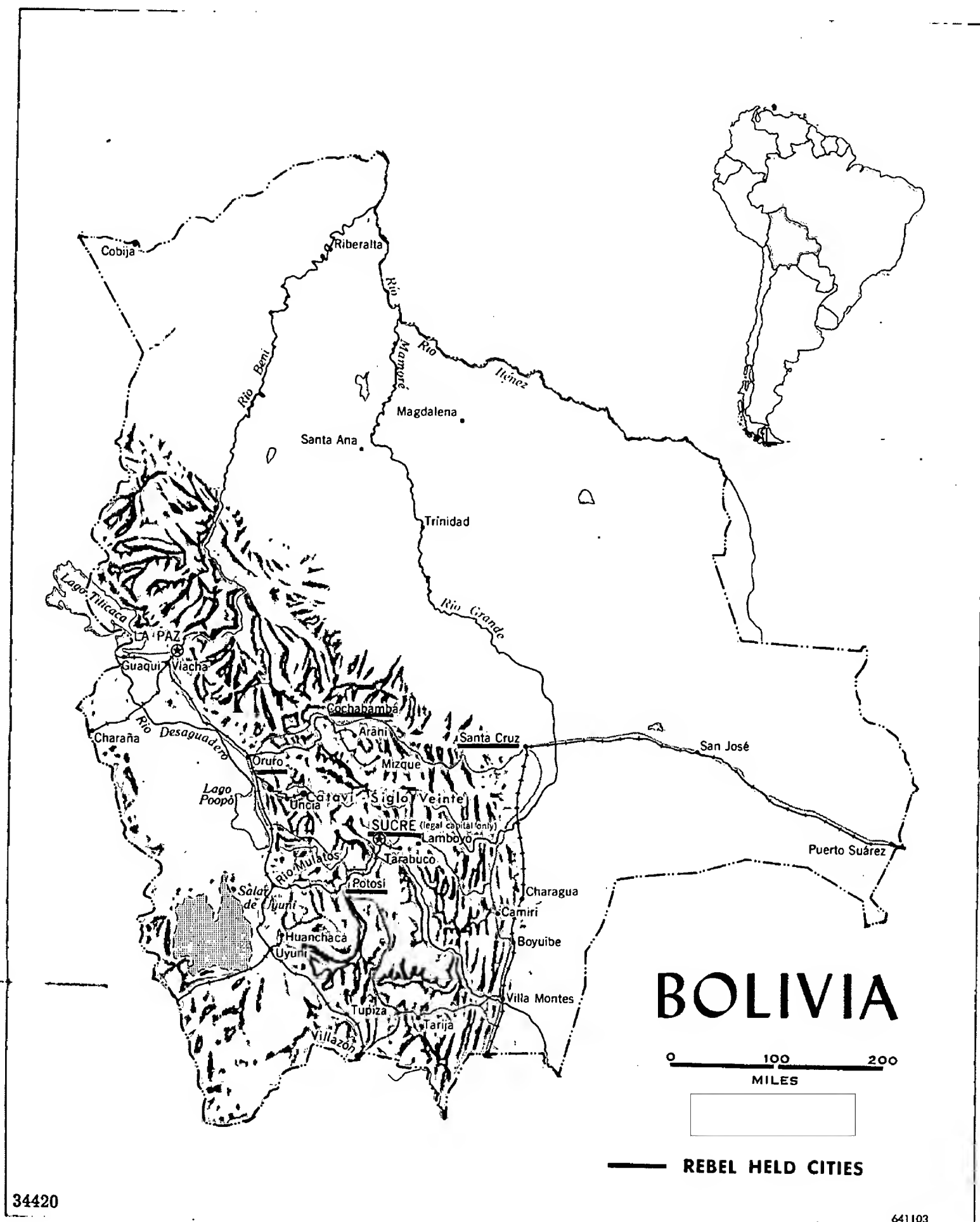
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

19 NOVEMBER 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~





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DAILY BRIEF
19 NOVEMBER 1964

1. Congo

The government column spearheaded by mercenaries is on its way toward Stanleyville. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The Stanleyville rebels, aware of their peril, are offering to negotiate with the US through the OAU. (See map)

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2. South Vietnam

Huong has confided to Ambassador Taylor that he thinks Khanh is maneuvering with the Buddhists against his government. [REDACTED]

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3. UAR

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4. Ghana

Disillusionment in Ghana with Nkrumah's leftward trend may be more pervasive than previously suspected. We do not, however, have any evidence of early action against him. For an outpouring of confidence by Foreign Minister Botsio, an old-guard Nkrumah adherent, see Annex 1. Botsio comes here soon for the UN session.

5. Bolivia

A brief situation report on Bolivia is included as Annex 2.

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7. Cuba

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8. France

The De Gaulle government has for some time been easing out officials considered to be of questionable loyalty to Gaullist doctrine. This process is now affecting senior levels at the Foreign Office, where conversations with US Embassy officers are sometimes conducted in the corridors to escape possible listening devices.

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9. Indonesia

The government's financial prospects are, if possible, bleaker than ever, partly because European and Japanese bankers turned down Sukarno's requests for fresh commercial credits during his recent foreign tour. Jakarta is cranking up the currency printing presses.

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10. North Vietnam

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ANNEX 1

Ambassador Mahoney Reports His Conversation
With the Ghanaian Foreign Minister
(State from Accra 410, 18 November)

AFTER FINISH OF OUR DISCUSSIONS ON CONGO AND ARTICLE 19 PROBLEMS, FOREIGN MINISTER BOTSIO DURING MY CALL LAST EVENING BROUGHT UP NOTE WE SENT TO HIM ON NOVEMBER 6 PROTESTING ANTI-AMERICAN ARTICLE IN SPARK ON CONGO WHICH CHARGED US HAD MURDERED HAMMARSKJOLD. BOTSIO SAID HE HAD BEEN DISCUSSING NOTE AND ARTICLE WITH PRESIDENT THAT VERY MORNING (NOV 17), HAD ASKED NKRUMAH WHEN THIS KIND OF BEHAVIOR WAS GOING TO STOP, AND POINTED OUT THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS CONSTANTLY HAVING TO APOLOGIZE TO GHANA'S WESTERN FRIENDS.

I SEIZED THIS OPENING TO REITERATE DAMAGING EFFECT VIRULLENCE OF PRESS WAS HAVING ON US-GHANA RELATIONS. STATED THAT IN MY LAST TALK SEPT 18 WITH NKRUMAH ABOUT PRESS, PRESIDENT HAD MADE NO PRETENSE OF IGNORANCE ABOUT ATTACKS, EXPRESSED NO APOLOGIES OR CONCERN, AND REALLY SEEMED TAKE NO INTEREST IN TRYING TO CORRECT SITUATION. BOTSIO CHIMED IN TO SAY "AND THERE WASN'T ANY IMPROVEMENT, WAS THERE?" I POINTED OUT THAT ON CONTRARY WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED HAD BEEN FOR PRESS TO BECOME WORSE THAN EVER BEFORE. CONSEQUENTLY, I SAID I NOT INTENDING TO GO OUT TO FLAGSTAFF HOUSE TO PROTEST PRESS FOR FELT IT LARGELY USELESS EXERCISE.

BOTSIO TRIED TO EXPLAIN THAT PRESS CAMPAIGN WAS ACTIVITY OF "SMALL BOYS" WHO HAVE FREE REIN AND NOT SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINE. I OBJECTED TO THIS STATEMENT AND SAID THAT HE AND I BOTH KNEW BETTER, THAT THESE "SMALL BOYS" HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT AND WERE ACTUALLY DOING WHAT NKRUMAH DIRECTED AND WANTED. I FURTHER INSISTED THAT NKRUMAH HAD GIVEN UP DENYING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PRESS TO ME LONG TIME AGO AND THAT FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED THERE WOULD BE NO IMPROVEMENT. THIS INTERJECTION SEEMED TO TAKE BOTSIO BY SURPRISE, AND THEN HE POURED FORTH CONFIDENCES AS HE HAS NEVER DONE BEFORE.

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OBVIOUSLY SPEAKING FROM THE HEART, HE SAID "YOU ARE CORRECT; THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES UNTIL THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE GOVERNMENT." HE CONTINUED BY EXPLAINING ONE MAIN REASON HE SUPPORTED UNION GOVERNMENT FOR AFRICA WAS BECAUSE IT OFFERED A VEHICLE FOR EFFECTING CHANGE HERE. DESCRIBING UNION AS THE "ONLY RAY OF DAYLIGHT," HE SAID IF ACHIEVED IT WOULD MEAN "THIS MAN" WOULD LOSE HIS INFLUENCE FOR OTHER HEADS OF STATE WOULD NOT TOLERATE HIS IDEAS OR ACTIONS. THEREFORE, HE INSISTED US MUST SUPPORT UNION CONCEPT AND MUST BE PATIENT WITH WHAT HAPPENING IN GHANA NOW. HE VOWED THAT IF HE DIDN'T THINK CHANGE COMING HE WOULD WALK OFF STAGE TOMORROW. CONTINUING, HE SAID, "YOU AND I KNOW THIS CAN'T GO ON" AND PERSISTED IN DISCOUNTING ABILITY OF NKRUMAH TO CONVERT GHANA INTO COMMUNIST STATE. MY REPLY TO THIS OBSERVATION WAS TO EMPHASIZE OUR WORRY THAT IN TEN YEARS NKRUMAH MIGHT SUCCEED IN ACCOMPLISHING TRANSITION TO SUCH A SOCIETY. BOTSIO'S REACTION TO MY REMARK WAS "MY GOD, WE ALL WILL BE CRAZY IF THIS SHOULD CONTINUE FOR TEN YEARS." AND ON THAT NOTE, MY CALL WAS CONCLUDED.

COMMENT: BOTSIO LAST EVENING WAS OBVIOUSLY SHAKEN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS THOROUGHLY AND PROFOUNDLY DISILLUSIONED ABOUT PRESENT COURSE EVENTS WITHIN GHANA. HE BOLDLY SPOKE UP FOR NEED OF REFORM, MENTIONING "WE (MEANING GHANAIS) ARE SOMEHOW GOING TO EFFECT CHANGE." MAIN THEME HE REITERATED SEVERAL TIMES WAS THAT "WE" REALIZE THERE NO HOPE AS LONG AS NKRUMAH REMAINS HEAD OF STATE.

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ANNEX 2

The Bolivian Situation in Brief

The junta is slowly consolidating its position, but has major problems with the miners and other important groups.

Junta President Barrientos' good-will trip to the Catavi-Siglo Viente mine complex last weekend was cancelled at the last minute, apparently because of the hostility of the miners there to the junta. These miners are controlled by Communist union leader Federico Escobar

Earlier Barrientos visited several other mining centers where he received cordial, but unenthusiastic welcomes.

The miners have demanded that the control obrero system--union veto over management decisions--be preserved. The junta would like to abolish the system, a step essential to rehabilitation of the mining industry, but will probably have no more success than did ex-President Paz. Without this rehabilitation, Bolivia will be unable to earn the foreign exchange necessary for its economic well-being. The miners and other leftist-led labor groups have also made inordinate demands on the junta, such as wage increases

The junta's plea for a return of all weapons held by civilians is falling on deaf ears. Few if any have been recovered, and important groups such as the Communist Party and Juan Lechin's National Leftist Revolutionary Party have said they will not comply.

The US Embassy in La Paz comments that although the junta is at bottom hostile to the Communists, it will be susceptible to Communist pressures.

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